

BLOWN TO DEATH AT ABIG HOTEL

Explosion of Gas on Ninth Floor
of the Imperial Hurl Work-
men About, Killing One and
Injuring Three.

PANIC AMONG GUESTS
WHO RUSHED TO STREET.

Wreckage Blown Into the New
and Unoccupied Addition and
None of the Patrons Was
Hurt.

One man was killed and three others
seriously hurt in a terrific explosion
on the ninth floor of the Imperial Hotel
this afternoon.

The explosion took place on the floor
where an opening was being cut through
into the new nineteen-story addition,
which has just been completed.

The odor of escaping gas on the
tenth floor of the main building was
so strong all morning that the men who
were cutting the opening through had
to work in relays.

Henry Butt, the hotel electrician, was
sent up to locate the trouble.

Shock Whole Building.

Whether a lighted match or candle or
a spark from an electric light wire was
the cause a terrible explosion, which
seemed to shake the entire structure to
the foundation, followed in a few mo-
ments after Butt began his work. None
of the score of men at work there were
able to tell what did cause the explosion.

Guests ran in flight to the street and
calls were sent out hurriedly for the
police reserves and ambulances. The
police found, when they were able to
make their way to the floor, that James
Owens, a plasterer, of One Hundred and
Twenty-first street and Eighth avenue,
had been instantly killed. His body
was crushed almost beyond recognition.
Butt was unconscious. He was hurt
internally. Another plasterer, James
McCabe, of No. 49 West Twenty-fourth
street, had his right leg broken and
may have internal injuries.

John Lebréttes, a laborer, of No. 223
East One Hundred and Ninth street,
suffered a compound fracture of the
right leg and other injuries which may
be fatal.

Followed by Fire.

The fire that followed was put out
easily. The damage in all will amount
to several thousands of dollars. The
entire top of the main building, known
as the "tent" house, was demolished.

The ceiling of the ninth floor, directly
below, was blown out and the entire
floor practically wrecked. The new addi-
tion was not much damaged.

It is believed that there was a leak in
the gas main on a lower floor and that
the gas accumulated between the ceiling
of the ninth floor and the foundations of
the tenth.

Pieces of debris were hurled down the
air shaft between the two structures,
breaking many windows and adding to
the panic of the guests, who were hurrying
out of the hotel, fearing that the
whole edifice was about to collapse. The
explosion was so loud that it was heard
beyond Forty-second street and Twenty-
third street.

While the crowd was fleeing from
the hotel an awning on the second
floor of the Broadway side caught fire,
adding to the excitement. It was put out
by a chambermaid, who had been fright-
ened as much as the others and who
had gone through the hall trying
to quiet the crowd and assure them
that there was no cause for alarm.

She calmly poured a pitcher of water
on the blaze, putting it out, but drenching
many of the crowd which had gathered
on the sidewalk. She was ap-
plauded loudly.

After the excitement had subsided
somewhat, it was learned that the
men of the plasterers and laborers had
been hurt in the explosion. They had
been blown about and hurt by the flying
debris. None was seriously hurt and
none other had to be sent to hospital.

Cannot Explain Explosion.

Foreman Macdonald in charge of the
work, said he could describe no cause for
the explosion.

A gas leak has been known for sev-
eral days, he said, but he could not
locate the trouble. There were no naked
lights used by the several electricians
who were at work.

"The force of the explosion was un-
precedented," he said, "and the wall was
blown into the unoccupied
part, thus preventing an even greater
disaster perhaps."

Capt. Burfield, of the Tenderloin
police, made an investigation afterward
and said that he did not fix the re-
sponsibility. He said that if he could
place the blame he would make an ar-
rest.

McCabe and Lebréttes were taken to
New York Hospital. It was said there
that they had been probably get-
ting well, unless it was that they were hurt
internally.

ONE DEAD, FIVE INJURED.

Fire Destroys Private Sanitarium
in Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 29.—One
person was burned to death and five
others injured in a fire today that de-
stroyed the private sanitarium of Dr.
A. E. Ralph, a two-story frame building
in the southern part of the city.

The dead, G. C. Carey, of W. Fourth
street.

The injured: Mrs. Minnie Lee, nurse;
Mrs. J. C. Gibson, housekeeper; Mrs.
Sarah Ryan, patient; Hannah Stoll,
servant; Dr. B. B. Ralph.

None of the injured will die.

The flames spread so quickly that the
occupants were forced to jump from sec-
ond-story windows. Carey was suffo-
cated in his room.

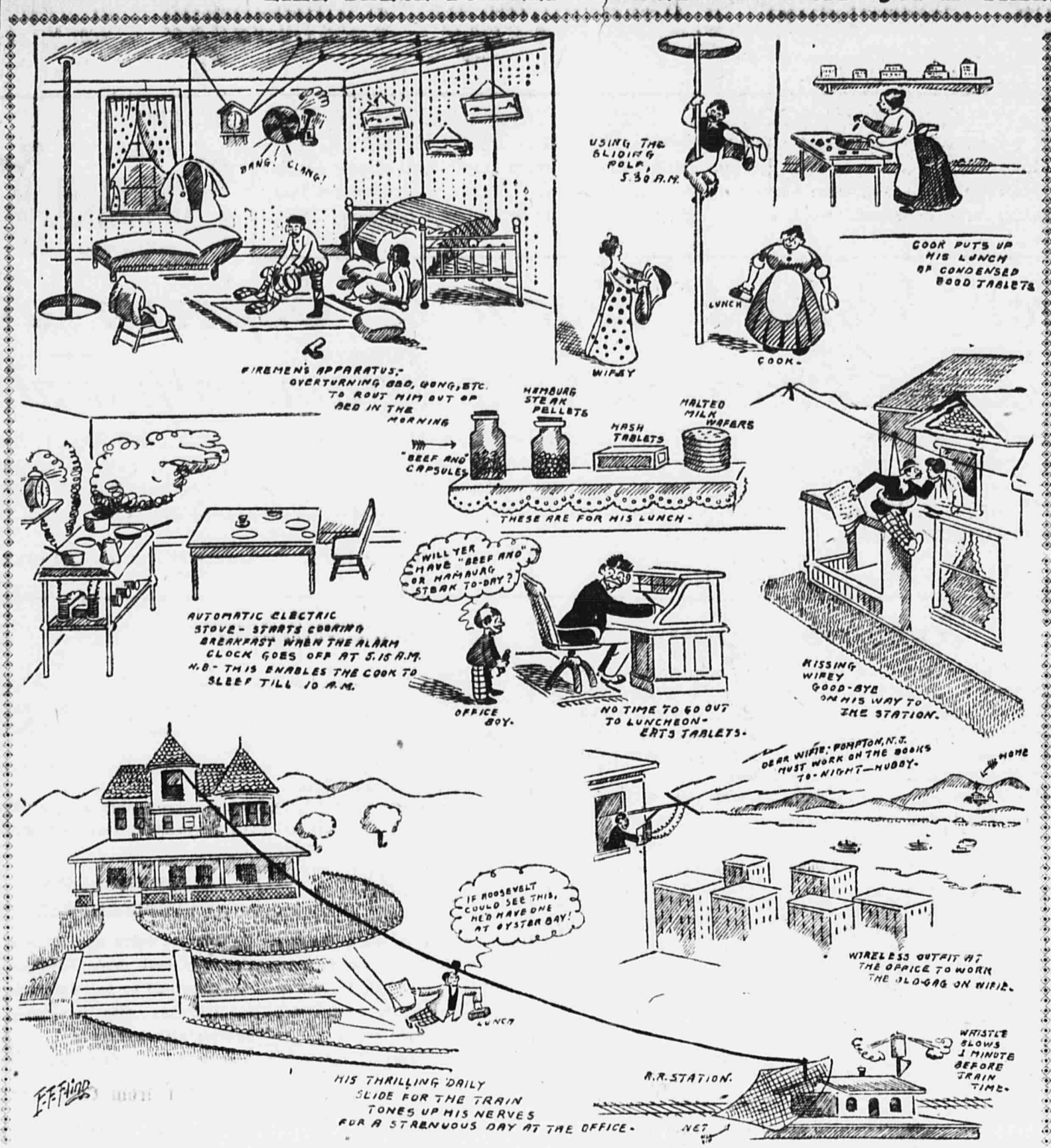
STRIKE IN TYPE FOUNDRIES.

Five Hundred Men Out in New York
Establishments.

The printers branch in all the New
York type foundries were closed today
on account of a strike ordered yesterday
in Chicago by International President P.
C. N. Burroughs, of the International
Brotherhood of Type Founders.

The strike will locally affect about
man, international Vice-President
of the foundry, and the Secretary of
the union, today issued a statement in
which he said the strike would not do-

THE COMMUTER NEEDS SOME TRAIN-CATCHING DEVICES LIKE THESE TO HELP HIM GET TO HIS CITY JOB IN TIME.



PROMINENT MEN HONOR EDUCATOR

Remarkable Gathering at the In-
stallation of John Huston Fin-
ley as President of the College
of the City of New York.

With all the form and ceremonies of
an academic installation John Huston
Finley was today invested with the
rights and privileges that go with the
title of the President of the College of
the City of New York. Every manner
of men of mind was at Carnegie Hall,
where the installation took place, to
give a kindly word and advice to the
new President. Some talked of educa-
tion, others of state affairs, others of
the growing youth, but in one thing they
were all united—the fitness of the man
for the position.

It is not often that so many distin-
guished men gather to do honor to an
individual. College president, statesmen,
an ex-President of the United States,
lawyers, doctors of science, philosophy
and medicine, masters of arts, soldiers,
diplomats were present to speak and to
listen.

The hall was decorated with flags, and
the college colors. In the auditorium
were the friends of the students and the
student body itself.

Cleveland's Phrase Applauded.

The ceremony began with a prayer by
the Rev. Henry Van Dyke, of Prince-
ton. Then Edward Lauterbach, as
Chairman of the Board of Trustees,
presented the seal of the college to the
new President, and Adolph Warner
spoke on behalf of the faculty. During
his speech he used former President
Cleveland's famous phrase, "Innocuous
desuetude." Mr. Cleveland smiled, so
did many others, until finally the recog-
nition of the phrase brought a round of
applause from the assembly. Other
addresses were delivered by J. Hamp-
den and Kenneth Greenock, the latter
speaking for the students, the former
for the alumni.

There was more speechmaking by
President Hadley, of Yale; President
Butler, of Columbia; President Schur-
man, of Cornell; President Remsen, of
Johns Hopkins University; Grover Cleve-
land, Chauncey M. Depew and Gov.
Odell.

Among the guests seated on the plat-
form were:

A Remarkable Gathering.

Ex-President Cleveland, Daniel S. Lam-
ont, Charles S. Fairchild, John G.
Carlisle, Oscar Straus, Gen. Young, Gen.
Chaffee, Gov. Odell, Mayor Seth Low,
Senator Chauncey M. Depew, John Rike-
rath, Justice Henry J. Blodgett, Jacob
Cantor, State Senator Nathaniel El-
berg, Loyall Farragut, Charles V.
Conrad, Justice Leonard A. Ciesler,
Gen. Francis V. Greene, Louis H. Har-
ten, Justice Theodore F. Russell, Gov.
William H. Hunt, Rev. John L. Loeble,
St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rev. Robert S.
MacArthur, John A. McCull, Judge Jo-
seph E. Newman, Chairman of the
Board of Education, George L. Rives, J.
Edward Simmons, Charles R. Skinner,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
Isidor Straus, Spencer Trask, Judge
James Fitzgibbon, Col. Albert L. Mills,
Superintendent of the West Point Mil-
itary Academy, Herbert Connelley, Gen.
Henry Edwin Tremain, Everett P.
Wheeler, J. Hampton Dougherty, Jus-
tice Vernon M. Davis, Edward Lauter-
bach, Charles Futzel, Edward M. Sher-
man and Henry A. Rogers, President of
the Board of Education.

President Roosevelt sent a letter.

Mr. Cleveland on Education.

When Grover Cleveland walked to the
front of the stage to receive the presi-
dential seal, he was met by a round of
applause. His theme was the "Demo-
cracy of Education." In part he said:
"Any education which does not place
the son of the man who works in the
trenches on a level with the son of the
millionaire is not the right education.
The human being should be able to
participate in the advantages of an educa-
tion furnished by the city or the
State, and any education which is
owner of a man with a nankin or hogs
to his breast is a menace to the welfare of
this nation."

"Such education is not to be found
in this institution. I myself have been
a student of this great city and I know
that when a young man steps out of the
College of the City of New York he is
equipped for the broad domain of life.
His mind is democratic if it follows the
teachings of his college, and he is
trained for the higher duties of an hon-
orable citizenship."

After the ceremonies consequent upon
the installation of President Finley were
completed the second part of the day's
programme was carried out. The laying
of the cornerstone of the new building
of the College of the City of New York
took place during the late afternoon,
Gov. Odell and some of the prominent
educators present delivered addresses.

PERJURY CHARGE AGAINST PRISONER

Henry Siegel, Acquitted Last
Week of Alleged Burglary, Is
Found to Have Served Six
Months in Penitentiary.

Henry Siegel was tried before Judge
Newburger in General Sessions last
week on a charge of burglary. He
established such good character that
he was acquitted.

A few seconds after the jury had
found his verdict Assistant District Attorney
Nott ascertained that Siegel had served
six months in the Penitentiary for
burglary, although he had sworn that he
had never been convicted.

"It's too late now," calculated the
Assistant District Attorney as he saw
Siegel leave court, "the jury has ac-
quitted him."

Mr. Nott, in a conversation with Dis-
trict Attorney Jerome, expressed his
chagrin at Siegel's acquittal.

"Do you think he was guilty?" Mr.
Jerome asked his assistant.

"I certainly do," replied Mr. Nott, "he
wouldn't have escaped if he hadn't de-
nied he was in prison before."

He then denied any material issue.
Mr. Nott applied for a warrant for
Siegel's arrest on the charge of perjury.
The jury charge and is again in the
Tomb.

MRS. DAVIS IMPROVES.

BUFFALO, Sept. 29.—It was reported
at the Court today that Mrs. Jef-
ferson Davis had passed a restful night
and was steadily improving.

NEW PRESIDENT OF CITY COLLEGE INSTALLED TO-DAY.



PROF. FINLEY,
New
President
City College.

SLEUTHS CAPTURE TWO FLAT THIEVES

Burglars Had Just Come from
Committing a Robbery on
Twenty-first Street and Were
Caught with the Goods.

Central Office Detective Keogh, while
making the rounds of the pawnshops
yesterday afternoon in search of some
stolen property, says he unexpectedly
came across two well-known thieves
just escaping after the commission of
a flat robbery on the west side.

Keogh followed the pair to Ninth ave-
nue and Twenty-seventh street, where,
with the assistance of a uniformed officer,
he arrested the suspects.

The prisoners described themselves as
John Kelly, twenty-one, a laborer, and
James Smith, twenty-four, a pedlar.
They both gave the Otis Tree Inn, on
East Twenty-third street, as their resi-
dence.

Keogh says the men carried bundles
containing clothing and jewelry, which
Kelly admitted were the proceeds of a
daylight burglary in a flat at No. 20
West Twenty-first street. At the latter
place Keogh says he ascertained that
the apartments occupied by Patrick Kerp
had been entered by means of false keys
and plundered.

Kerr complained of the loss of two
suits of clothes, a watch and chain, ra-
zor, pair of gold sleeve buttons, an over-
coat and some smaller articles. All the
plunder was found in the possession of
the prisoner and Kelly was wearing the
stolen overcoat.

The accused were arraigned this
morning before Magistrate Pool in the
Jefferson Market Police Court. They
waived examination on the charge of
burglary and were held in \$1,000 bail
each for trial.

SOLD NOWHERE ELSE.

JAMES S. COWARD,
268-274 Greenwich St., near Warren St., N.Y.
Mail Orders Filled.
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

are showing in their

MEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

Autumn styles in HIGH-CLASS NECK-
WEAR, made up, and MATERIALS FOR
NECKWEAR, MADE TO ORDER; Colored and
Dress Shirts, Pajamas, Underwear, Hosiery,
Gloves, etc., also in this department, assort-
ments of Men's House Coats, Bath Robes,
Steamer Rugs and Carriage Robes.

Will continue, to-morrow (Wednesday) their
sale of

WOMEN'S KID GLOVES,

In Black, White and colors, \$1.00 per pair,
regular price \$1.50, at

NOTICE. Commencing THURSDAY, Octo-
ber 1st, and until further notice, store will be
open, as heretofore, until SIX P. M.

Eighteenth Street, Nineteenth Street and Sixth Avenue.

THIEF KNOCKS OUT JEWELER IN STORE

Charles Dahner Boldly Attempts
a Daylight Robbery in Long
Island City, Hammering Fein-
berg with a Pistol.

Jacob Feinberg, a jeweler, of No. 23
Jackson avenue, Long Island City, came
near losing his life today while de-
fending his property against a thief
who beat him into unconsciousness with
the butt of a big revolver.

The man was captured after a fight
with policeman and two citizens.

Feinberg was restored to consciousness
after considerable effort. He told the
police a remarkable tale of the attempt
of daylight robbery. He said that short-
ly after 10 o'clock his assailant, who
was fashionably clad, entered his store,
which is on Long Island City's busiest
street, a block from the Borough Hall,
and asked to see an engagement ring.

Feinberg placed a tray containing
three diamond rings on the show case.
Then he came from behind the counter
to close the door which the prospective
customer had left open.

Confronted with Pistol.

"Hold up your hands or I will blow
out your brains," said the man. Fein-
berg's hands went up.

"Now open the safe!" commanded the
stranger holding a pistol to Feinberg's
face.

"Take all the jewelry in sight if you
will," said Feinberg, "but I won't open
the safe. Take it and get out."

The highwayman advanced closer to
Feinberg.

"Open that safe!" he cried, but Fein-
berg grappled with him instead.

Round and round the shop the pair
fought like mad men. Feinberg using
his fists and the robber striking with
the butt of his pistol.

Two citizens joined the policeman, who
drew his revolver, and the three over-
powered the robber. The police station
report should alarm pedestrians on the
street.

His Escape Shut Off.

The robber made for the back door,
but it was locked. He started to enter
from the front, but the fall of the broken glass
had attracted Policeman James McGill,
who faced the robber on the sidewalk.

Then the thief darted back into the
shop, drew his revolver again and
aimed it at the policeman.

Two citizens joined the policeman, who
drew his revolver, and the three over-
powered the robber. The police station
report should alarm pedestrians on the
street.

PRESIDENT'S PET JOSHUA ON VIEW

Badger Played with by the
Roosevelt Children Evicts the
White Raccoon Dog at Bronx
Zoological Gardens.

There is considerable ill feeling in the
Bronx "Zoo" today, and all of it
caused by the advent of Joshua, the
badger which President Roosevelt pre-
sented to the city when he left Oyster
Bay for Washington.

The white raccoon dog was coddly
thrilled out of his cage near the pana-
yard this morning in order that Joshua
might be displayed as conspicuously as
possible.

The Murray cat was evicted from
her home to make way for the
raccoon dog, and the European badger,
the only other badger in the gardens,
was told to take a back seat for the new
arrival.

A special plate bearing Joshua's
name and history is to be put upon his
cage.

Joshua had been a pet in the Roosevelts'
family for about six months. He was
given to the President by a little girl at
Sharon Springs, Kan., when Mr. Roose-
velt stopped there on his tour through
the West. At the time the badger was
only a few weeks old. The President
had just finished delivering a speech
from the rear platform of a car when
the little girl raised the badger up to
him in a basket.

He was taken to the White House
after the President returned from the
West, and was then brought on to
New York.

Joshua grew to be very fond of Josiah,
and the President himself had lost of fun
with him during the vacation. The badger
grew fast during the summer and had
begun to show signs of being ugly, and
the President disapproved of letting his
children play with it any longer.

He hasn't told them, though, that the title
of ownership has been transferred un-
conditionally to the "Zoo."

ARMENIANS FIGHT COSSACKS.

TIFLIS, Russian Transcaucasia, Sept.
29.—The enforced transfer of the Ar-
menian Church property at Shusha to
the Russian authorities brought on a
conflict.

Armenians made a demonstration in
front of the Governor's residence, and
stoned the Cossacks who tried to dis-
perse them. Shots from the crowd at
disorderly soldiers and roofs were answered
by a volley from the Cossacks.

Two Cossacks and one rioter were
killed. The Armenians carried off in
the confusion a number of wounded.
Similar rioting occurred recently near
Elizabetopol, and at Baku and Kars.

TRADING STAMPS FOR BRIDES

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 29.—Squire
Burnett, of Nanticoke, has offered trad-
ing stamps to the amount of every mar-
riage for contracted before him. He has
found to his sorrow that lately many
young people have been going to New
York State on the numerous railroad ex-
cursions run there and getting married
by a volunteer from the Cossacks.

He believes it will be an incentive to
thrifty brides to have the ceremony in
their own town if he offers trading
stamps with which they may get house-
furnishings.

HER HAIR TORN OUT BY A BIG MACHINE

Elizabeth Murray Caught in the
Belting of a Button Factory
and She Was Whirled Around
in a Wheel.

Elizabeth Murray, a twenty-year-old
operative in a button factory at No. 112
Liberty avenue, East New York, was
nearly scalped today by being caught
by the hair in the belting of the ma-
chine.

The young woman was working in an
isolated part of the factory when she
carelessly put her head too near the
shafting. Her hair was unusually lux-
uriant and was not tightly coiled. It
caught in the belting and she was
whirled around and around.

Her screams alarmed other employees
and the machinery was stopped after
the young woman had made perhaps
twenty revolutions around a big wheel.
She was unconscious when her body
dropped to the floor at the stopping of
the machinery.

She was removed to St. Mary's Hos-
pital in a critical condition. Hardly a
hair remains on her head and her scalp
was nearly torn from her skull.

Two laborers were nearly killed to-
day by the caving-in of an excavation
in which they were working in East
New York. The men were Michael
Ambrosia, of No. 260 Essex street, and
Pietro Angiano, of Pacific street and
Stone avenue.

Both were taken to Bradford Street
Hospital, where it was said that Am-
brosia's injuries were probably fatal.
Angiano was not hurt so seriously.

The two men were working in an
eighteen-foot ditch, laying a sewer,
when without warning the sides caved
in. Ambrosia was completely buried
from sight, while Angiano's head was
the only portion of his body that was
free. His screams attracted the atten-
tion of a passerby, who notified the po-
lice, but they were unable to extricate
the men on account of the dangerous
condition of the sides of the hole.

Firemen from Hook and Ladder Com-
pany No. 27, in New Jersey avenue, were
then called. Capt. McDregg and his
men managed to put a life belt around
Angiano's shoulders and stopped his
sinking further; but as fast as the fire-
men dug away the dirt over the other
man it slumped in from the top, mak-
ing their work not only more difficult,
but dangerous.

Ambrosia's head was uncovered, how-
ever, after nearly a half hour's labor.
He was unconscious. It was more than
five hours later when the two men were
fully released. Whiskey and coffee were
administered to them by ambulance sur-
geons, who with the firemen risked their
own lives to save the imprisoned men.

George Lunz, the contractor, of No.
143 Alabama avenue, was arrested,
charged with having allowed the shoring
of the ditch to be done carelessly.

STUDENTS ANGER STRIKERS.

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 29.—The first
blast of the striking millers was made
yesterday when J. M. Finley, President
of the Mill Employees' Union, said that
he labor unions would go to the next
session of the Legislature and prevent
the passage of all bills providing for
proportional representation for the State University
the strike-breaking students were not
at all.